

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FILING OF DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.497		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 70020.0067USWO
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2003/016640	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE December 24, 2003	U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 10/541,032
TITLE OF INVENTION RADIATION-SENSITIVE RESIN COMPOSITION		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Isao NISHIMURA et al.		

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the notification dated February 22, 2006, and in compliance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.497(a) and (b), Applicants submit herewith an executed Declaration in connection with the above-referenced patent application. The Declaration identifies the instant application by its title "Radiation-Sensitive Resin Composition," which title was on the specification of the application as filed under 35 U.S.C. 317 on June 28, 2005. The required fee is submitted herewith.

In view of the foregoing, this application is deemed to be in proper condition for examination on the merits and such favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD, P.C.



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April 21, 2006

Date

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23552

Patent & Trademark Office

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
United States Patent Application
DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.63

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor(if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor(if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: RADIATION-SENSITIVE RESIN COMPOSITION

The specification of which

a. [] is attached hereto.

b. [] was filed on _____ as application serial no. _____ and amended on _____ (if applicable) (in the case of a PCT-filed application) described and claimed in international no. _____ filed _____ and as amended on _____ (if any), which I have reviewed and for which I solicit a United States patent.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

a. [] no such applications have been filed.

b. [] such applications have been filed as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, CLAIMING PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC § 119			
Country	Application Number	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
JAPAN	JP2002-383840	28, December, 2002	
	PCT/JP2003/016640	24, December, 2003	
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED BEFORE THE PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)			
Country	Application Number	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(S) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, Untied States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING(day, month, year)	STATUS(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING(Day, Month, Year)

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(reprinted below).

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein disclosed to the Office

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A *prima facie case* of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

(e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph(b) of this section, which become available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

Merchant & Gould P.C.

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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